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Paris 17th July 1785.

Dear Sir,

I am arrived here after a very pleasant Passage of 25 days. To morrow I propose setting out for Paris. I have thought of many things since I took my leave of you which I beg to mention as they may be usefull to the State of Vermont: I hope you'll attend to it and exert your influence to have it done. as to the different names for the New Towns & Counties which I propose a you, I hope your Governor and his Council will find nothing very extraordinary in those names the very appellation of the State being Vermont will make the names proposed more analagous Vermont being entirely French. nor will the sound of those be in contradiction with the Harmony of your language. For instance Bergennesburg and Castle Dis for the two Towns on the Otter and the Onion Rivers. County of Beauvean the Town of Beauvean for the County Town County of Liancourt, the Town of Liancourt for the County Town, County of Target & Targets burg for the County Town (This last name is infinitely precious and dear to me) I could wish to see it given to some Place or District Fayettis Grove, Lemaicum, Hartcourt, Danville Vandoeuvre &c. I dare say that the sound of those names agree very well the American language, therefore it cannot on that hand be objected. what I meant to say which I had forgot is a sketch of the Map of the State of Vermont could you send me such an one with the new divisions inserted and the new names. I would get it elegantly engraved in Paris and send you back 500 copies which you'd dispose of at your will and Pleasure. I would have the arms of the State elegantly engraved on the top, if this idea was agreeable to you. Please send me by a safe opportunity to my office in N. York the best Materials you can procure & I will have this done without any cost. I greatly depend on your promises of sending me different anecdotes &c. I receive them signed with your name they will be printed with it depend on it. in short whatever curious or interesting may come to your knowledge I beg you'd collect it for me, I will make a good use of it. I beg you'd not think me too Presumptuous in asking you all these things I mean well. I beg you'd be mindful of it, I will show your Book to my friends and carefully submit you their observations thereon don't forget the Second Vol. which you have promised me if you had a good opportu-

-nity in Hartford. I desire you'd write a line Col Jeremiah Wadsworth & to ask him for one of the Vol. of the American Farmer. I hope the perusal of that Book will not displease you had I had one of them with me whilst you was in N. York. the author would presented you one with great pleasure in the Seeaway also. Dear Sir, I would thank you most earnestly for the Seed of any Grass, Bush, Plant or Tree, which you may think Valuable, prove usefull and curious. I cannot flatter myself that your Assembly would condescend to pass an Act to Naturalise myself & Children tho' on many accounts (too Tedious to explain to you) it would be not only highly honourable to them but highly conducive to the completion of their Bill of Naturalisation in France which I am now soliciting in order that they may inherit my Fathers succession which will be pretty considerable they have had lately the honor of being made by diplomas freemen of the City of Hartford and New-Haven but if nevertheless spite of every appearance so great a favor through your Good Influence could be obtained. I shall take the liberty of sending you their names, their age and the name of their Mother all these things are expressed in their diplomas of N. Haven & are necessary for the completion of what I am soliciting for them in France. Youll pardon therefore a Father if through his Fatherly zeal he seems to out-go the bounds of common discretion. In speaking to you I am confident to unbosom myself to a Person who will not censure me nor think that by asking for my Children the honor of being naturalised in Vermont, he has in his heart ought bordering on foolish vanity or presumption but an honest intention of establishing his Children in the full possession of the rights of Frenchmen born in order to obtain so desirable an end — there I must prove the public Notoriety of their being my Children not by certificates of Marriage &c but by public acts of their being so. dont blame me therefore Dear Sir if I conclude this letter by recommending to your notice & remembrance all I have said & by sending you what is inserted in the diploma of freedom my Children have been honored with-in the City of New-Haven, America Frances born 14th Dec. 1770. William Alexander born 5th aug. 1772. Philip Lewis born 22d Oct. 1774. Children of the Sieur St. John de Crevelcaud. and of Mehitable his Wife begging your pardon. Wishing you health and prosperity and squeezing you heartily by the hand, I remain with unfeigned respect & esteem

Your Friend & humble Servant
St. John

Brig. Gen. Ethan Allen

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786.

Bennington in Vermont 22. March

Sir —

After many difficulties & procrastinations last fall I published my "Oracles of reason" & have sent a number of the Books to sundry Capital places & parts of America, One of the volumes I herewith transmit to Mr St John. in consequence of the unexpected correspondence with which he has been pleased to honour me. Though it may be repugnant to the policy of a Monarch in such kind of (writings whether true or false) should circulate among the commonalty of his subjects: yet I am well apprised, that the independent Literary Gentleman of France, think and converse with one another, and with foreigners, as freely, and liberally as any in the world, and as a Nation have cultivated and extended the arts and Sciences, at least equal to any people in the annals of mankind have encouraged genius, and learning in other Nations, and finally in a great variety of instances have become the patrons of the improved part of our species —

I am not so vain as to imagine that my Theology will afford any considerable entertainment to the enlightened mind of Mr St John — or to any learned Gentlemen in France, yet it is possible that he or they may be somewhat diverted with the untutored logic, and sallies of a mind nursed principally in the mountainous wilds of America. And since it is the almost universal foible of Mankind to aspire to something, or other beyond their natural or acquired abilities & feel the infection I desire, that Mr St John would lay the oracles of reason before the royal academy of Arts & Sciences at Paris & should my productions meet with the disapprobation of the Capital of Science in the Old World, I shall have the satisfaction of reflecting that I have made a bold attempt in philosophy though unsuccessful — The Clergy of this Country reprobate the work & anathematize the writer of it — but they have not so great power in America as they had previous to the late revolution. On its first publication it has pleased more individuals, than I expected and caused considerable speculation and argumentation. I am however sensible that my reputation as a Reasoner (even in America) will depend in great measure on the reception that the work may meet with in the learned Cities of Europe Paris & London — In the month of January last the Governor & great part of the members of the Council of this State met at Bennington principally to

read and consult the proposition in your letter to me respecting a State seal, a College list of names of French patriots to the American Independence, and your desire with your sons to become naturalised and become free Citizens of this State &c all which particulars was well pleasing to the Council they testified their unanimous approbation of all and singular of your propositions and will use their influence with mine at the General Assembly of this State in Oct. next to carry into effect your whole desire, which I presume will meet with general approbation and applause. The said Council at their session aforesaid concluded to recommend to the Legislature that on the Land contiguous to the first falls on Otter Creek they would incorporate a City with certain privileges and infranchisements and have already named it Devergens to perpetuate the memory of your prime Minister in America to all eternity. Every other of the patriotic names you gave me will I presume be noticed in like manner and be affixed to certain districts of territory in Vermont; particularly your favorite Target alias Targetsburg and the Minister of the Marine Department according to your desire.

Sir, in behalf of the People of Vermont I return you thanks for the honor you have done me and them in generous correspondence and assure you that we esteem it to be a great honour to be noticed by the Great Nation, the guarantees of American independence more especially as we are not yet confederated with the United States. We flatter ourselves, that a mutual intercourse of Friendship, and good offices amounts nearly to an allyance —

We have not as yet made an accurate plan or map of the State but are doing it which when done we will send to France, to be completed by the Kings engravers, with the seal of the State as you proposed. And with respect to the College, a Committee is now appointed, to mark out the place, and as to the seal of the College, and its device and any other matters relating thereto, the people of Vermont confide in Mr St. John and are his Humble Servts.

As to any shrubs, or rarities to accommodate the Kings garden we have it in contemplation and will write you on that as well as other particulars more fully at another time.

My late publication has been expensive and has engrossed my attention. Could I have attended the general Assembly in October last I might sooner have accomplished your wishes in the matters above related nor

leasure to make out any political or historical anecdote concerning the late War. which you might have improved in your history if I though there is no Gentleman on Earth I would be more happy to oblige, than Mr St John. and have done myself the honour of contributing towards a history that so immediately respects my Country.

I am Sir with every
sentiment of respect & esteem
your friend & Humble Servt
Ethan Allen